GROUP EXHIBIT B

JANUARY 11, 2008 MICHAEL W. DOBBINS CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

BALLARD NURSING CENTER, INC.,

08 C 260

Plaintiff,

v.

No.

ACCUBUILT, INC. and JOHN DOES 1-10,

JURY DEMAND

Defendants.

JUDGE GETTLEMAN MAGISTRATE JUDGE ASHMAN

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Defendant, Accubuilt, Inc. ("Accubuilt"), by and through its attorneys, and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1441, 1446, 1453, and 1367, hereby removes this action from the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. In support of its Notice of Removal, Accubuilt states:

- 1. This action was commenced on or about December 7, 2007, when Plaintiff, Ballard Nursing, Inc. ("Ballard" or "Plaintiff"), filed a putative Class Action Complaint ("Class Action Complaint") in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, County Department, Chancery Division under court number 07 CH 36133 Copies of the Service of Process, Summons, and Complaint served upon Accubuilt are attached hereto as Group Exhibit A.
- 2. In its Class Action Complaint, Ballard alleges that Accubuilt sent to it an "unsolicited fax advertisement" in violation of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. § 227 ("TCPA") and the Illinois Consumer Fraud Act, 815 ILCS 505/2 ("ICFA"). (Complaint, ¶¶ 21 and 31, respectively.) Ballard also alleges that the sending of the facsimile constituted "conversion" under Illinois common law. (Id., ¶ 50.) Ballard's Class Action

Complaint seeks actual and statutory damages on behalf of Ballard and all other similarly situated persons. (Id., ¶ 29.)

- 3. Accubuilt and Ballard are citizens of different states.
- 4. Ballard is an Illinois corporation with its principal place of business, on information and belief, in Cook County, Illinois. (Complaint, ¶ 3.)
- 5. Accubuilt is a Delaware corporation, with its principal place of business in Lima, Ohio.
- 6. Accubuilt was served with Ballard's Complaint and Summons on December 14, 2007.
- 7. This action may be removed to this Court because federal question jurisdiction exists over this dispute pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331. Moreover, diversity jurisdiction exists pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 and the Class Action Fairness Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332(d) and 1453.
- 8. Because Plaintiff's alleged claim under the TCPA arises under federal law, this action could have been brought in the United States District Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331. Brill v. Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., 427 F.3d 446, 451 (7th Cir. 2005) ("[R]emoval [of a putative TCPA class action] is authorized not only by the Class Action Fairness Act but also by § 1441, because the claim arises under federal law."); G.M. Sign, Inc. v. Franklin Bank, S.S.B., No. 06 C 0949, 2006 WL 1132386, at *3 (N.D. Ill. Apr. 19, 2006 (holding that remand of a TCPA action would be improper because subject matter jurisdiction for such claims exists under 18 U.S.C. § 1331) (a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B).
- 9. Diversity jurisdiction exists under 28 U.S.C. 1332(d) and the Class Action Fairness Act because Ballard and Accubuilt are citizens of different states. Additionally, the

facsimiles at issue were sent to over 12,000 recipients. Accordingly, the amount in controversy exceeds the statutory minimum for jurisdiction.

- 10. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over Plaintiff's ICFA and common law conversion claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a) because the claims in this case arise out of the same case or controversy.
- 11. This Notice of Removal is timely in that it is filed within 30 days from the date Accubuilt received a copy of the Summons and Complaint. 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b); see also Murphy Bros. v. Michetti Pipe Stringing, Inc., 526 U.S. 344, 348 (1999) (holding that removal period "is triggered by simultaneous service of the summons and complaint, or receipt of the complaint, 'through service or otherwise,' after and apart from service of the summons...").
- 12. Accubuilt will give written notice of the filing of this Notice and a copy of this Notice will be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, as required by 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

WHEREFORE, Defendant, Accubuilt, Inc., hereby removes this action from the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, County Department, Chancery Division, to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division.

Respectfully submitted, ACCUBUILT, INC.

By: s/ Thomas P. Cimino, Jr.
One of Its Attorneys

Thomas P. Cimino, Jr., Esq. Brian W. Ledebuhr, Esq. VEDDER PRICE P.C. 222 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2600

Chicago, IL 60601-1003 Telephone: 312/609-7500 Facsimile: 312/609-5005

Firm ID No. 44284 Dated: January 11, 2008 **EXHIBIT A**

JAN. 3. 2008 5:34PM

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P. 2 NO. 831

CT CORPORATION

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Service of Process

Transmittal 12/14/2007

CT Log Number 512887393

TO:

Accubuilt, Inc. 2550 Central Point Pkwy LIMA, OH 45804

RE;

Process Served in Ohlo

POR:

Accubuilt, Inc. (Domestic State: DE)

507 7 F 102

enclosed are copies of legal process received by the statutory agent of the above company as follows:

TITLE OF ACTION:

Ballard Nursing Center, Inc., Pitf. vs. Accubuilt, Inc. and John Does 1-10, Difts.

DOCUMENT(S) SERVED:

Summons, Complaint, Notice, Exhibit(s)

COURT/AGENCY:

Cook County Circuit Court, IL Case # 07CV36133

NATURE OF ACTION:

Class Action - Sending of unsolicited fax advertisements in violation of Telephone Consumer Protection Act

ON WHOM PROCESS WAS SERVED:

C T Corporation System, Cleveland, OH

DATE AND HOUR OF SERVICE

By Process Server on 12/14/2007 at 12:04

APPEARANCE OR ANSWER DUE:

within 30 days after service

ATTORNEY(\$) / SENDER(\$):

Daniel A. Edelman Edelman, Combs, Lattumer & Goodwin, LLC 120 S, LaSelle St.

18th Floor Chicago, IL 80603 312-739-4200

ACTION ITEMS:

SOF Papers with Transmittel, via Fed Ex 2 Day , 790404727558

SIGNED

C T Corporation System

PER: ADDRESS: Debra Justice 1300 East 9th Street Suite 1010

Cleveland. OH 44114

TELEPHONE:

216-621-4270

Page 1 of 1/LW

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Case 1:08-cv-00260

ACORDIA

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Document 5-4

Filed 01/14/2008

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P. 3

NO. 831

JAN. 3. 2008 5:35PM ACORDIA

NO. 831 P. 4

Atty. No. 41106

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION

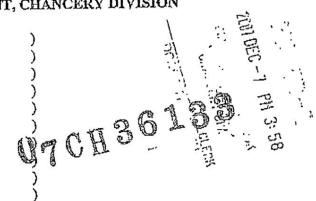
BALLARD NURSING CENTER, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v.

ACCUBUILT, INC., and IOHN DOES 1-10,

Defendants.



COMPLAINT - CLASS ACTION

MATTERS COMMON TO MULTIPLE COUNTS

INTRODUCTION

- 1. Plaintiff Ballard Nursing Center, Inc. brings this action to secure redress for the actions of defendant Accubuilt, Inc. in sending or causing the sending of unsolicited advertisements to telephone facsimile machines in violation of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. §227 ("TCPA"), the Illinois Consumer Fraud Act, 815 ILCS 505/2 ("ICFA"), and the common law.
- 2. The TCPA expressly prohibits unsolicited fax advertising. Unsolicited fax advertising damages the recipients. The recipient is deprived of its paper and ink or toner and the use of its fax machine. The recipient also wastes valuable time it would have spent on something else. Unsolicited faxes prevent fax machines from receiving and sending authorized faxes, cause wear and tear on fax machines, and require labor to attempt to identify the source and purpose of the unsolicited faxes.

PARTIES

- Plaintiff Ballard Nursing Center, Inc. is a corporation with offices in Cook
 County, Illinois, where it maintains telephone facsimile equipment.
- Defendant Accubuilt, Inc. is a Delaware corporation that has offices at
 2550 Central Point Pkwy., Lima, OH 45804. Its registered agent and office are CT Corporation
 System, 1300 E. 9th Street, Cleveland, OH 44114.
- 5. Defendants John Does 1-10 are other natural or artificial persons that were involved in the sending of the facsimile advertisements described below. Plaintiff does not know who they are.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 6. Personal jurisdiction exists under 735 ILCS 5/2-209, in that defendants:
- a. Have committed tortious acts in Illinois by causing the transmission of unlawful communications into the state.
 - b. Have transacted business in Illinois.

FACTS

- 7. On or about September 25, 2006, plaintiff Ballard Nursing Center, Inc. received the unsolicited fax advertisement attached as <u>Exhibit A</u> on its facsimile machine.
- 8. On or about October 9, 2006, plaintiff Ballard Nursing Center, Inc. received the unsolicited fax advertisement attached as <u>Exhibit B</u> on its facsimile machine.
 - Discovery may reveal the transmission of additional faxes as well.
- 10. Defendant Accubuilt, Inc. is responsible for sending or causing the sending of the faxes.